“Application Blocked By Java” Security Issue

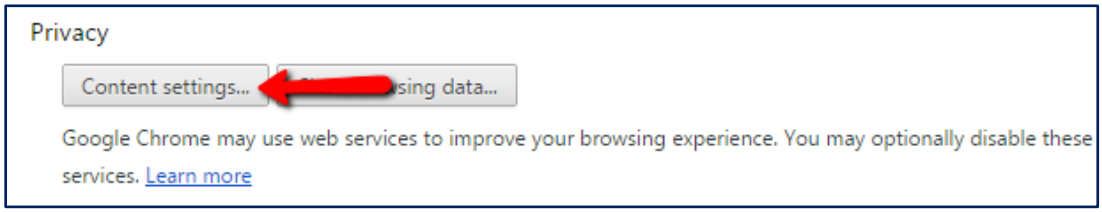
When trying to open the Collaboration and multi-media tools, such as Virtual Classroom and Wimba Voice Authoring, your browser may identify these tools as unsafe content and prevent them from running. To facilitate smooth performance for the Collaboration tools, the process consists of two phases: modifying browser settings, and then modifying the way the operating system handles Java applets.

In this tutorial, we will demonstrate how to allow these applets to load and run using the Google Chrome web browser and the Microsoft Windows operating system. Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the two browsers most recommended for use with Blackboard Learn.

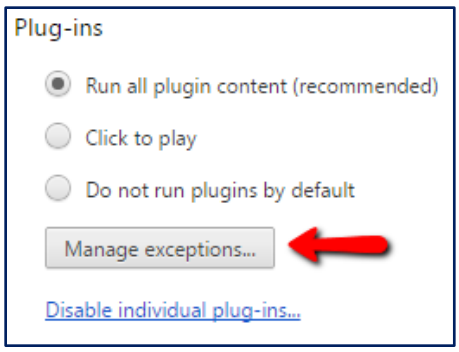
The instructions make use of keyboard shortcuts for copying and pasting text: Ctrl+C to copy, Ctrl+V to paste. The Macintosh equivalents use the Command (Apple) key in place of Ctrl (Control).

Modifying Browser Settings

1. Click the **Menu Icon**  at the top right of the browser, and select **Settings** from the list.
2. At the bottom of the settings page, click **Show advanced settings**, and scroll down to the Privacy section. Then click the **Content Settings** button.



3. In the window that pops up, scroll down to the Plug-ins section, and click the **Manage exceptions** button.

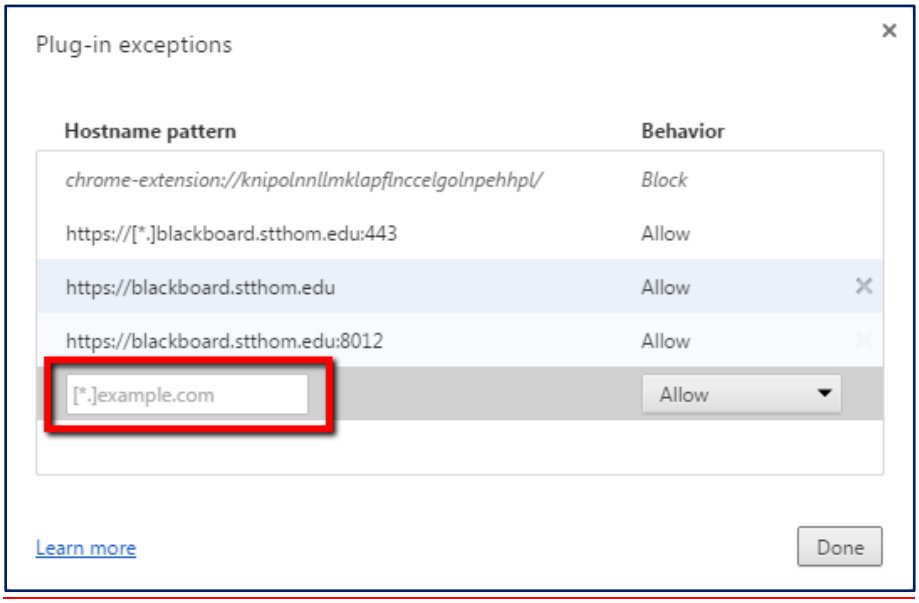


4. Click on the available text box and type in or **Ctrl+C** to copy, **Ctrl+V** to paste the following URLs. Press **Enter** after each entry.

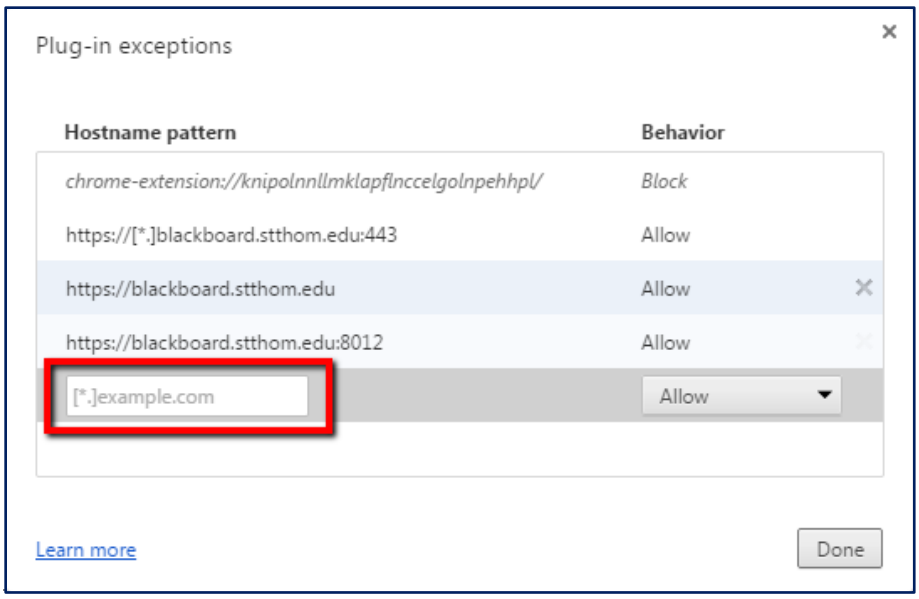
   https://blackboard.stthom.edu

   https://blackboard.stthom.edu:8012

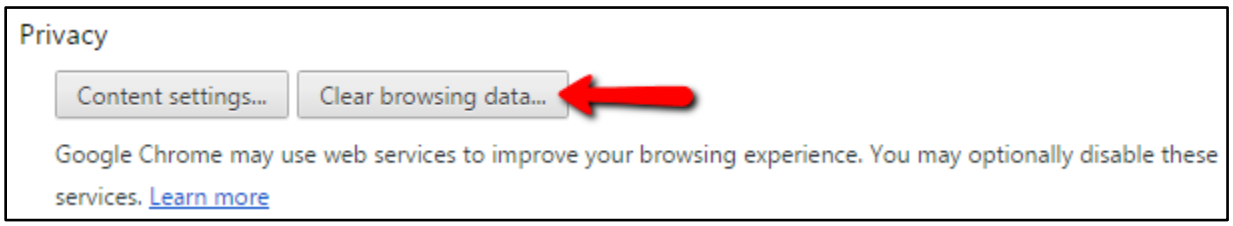
   https://wimba.stthom.edu:443



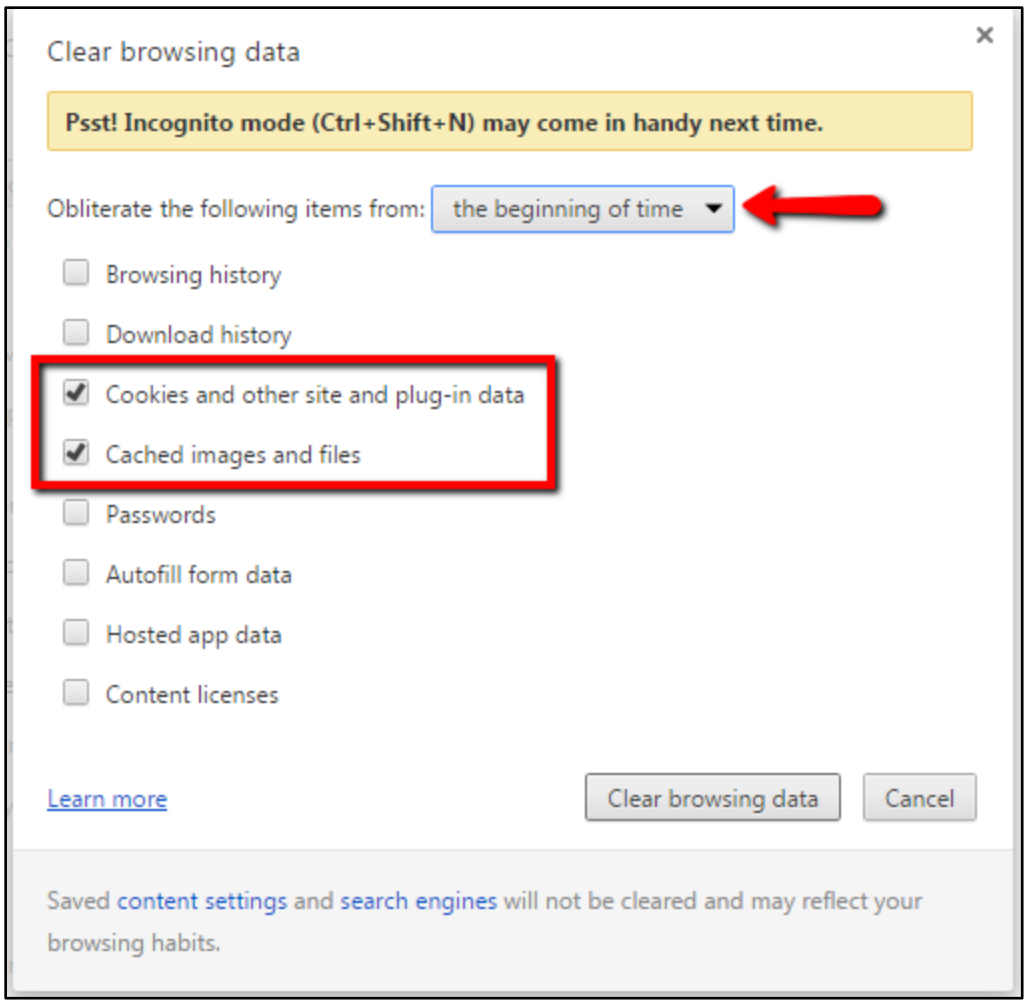
5. Leave the drop-down in the Behavior column set to **Allow**. This will specify the content sources that the browser (Chrome, in this case) can trust.



6. Click **Done** when you have finished entering the URLs, and then click **Done** to close the Content Settings dialog.
7. Next to Content settings, click **Clear browsing data**.



8. Check the boxes next to **Cookies and other site and plug-in data** and **Cached images and files**.
9. Click the drop-down menu, and select **the beginning of time**.



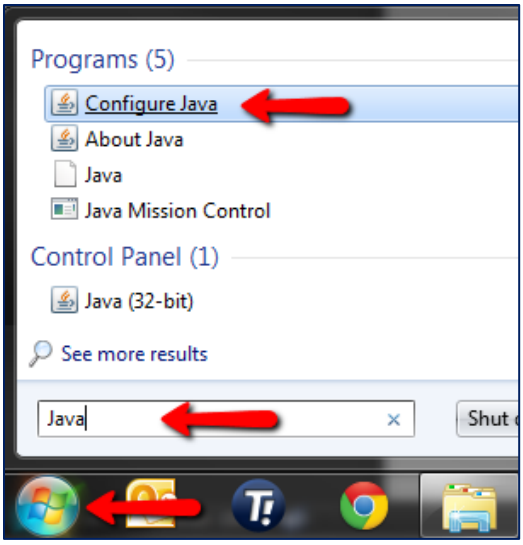
10. Click **Clear browsing data**.

Modifying Windows

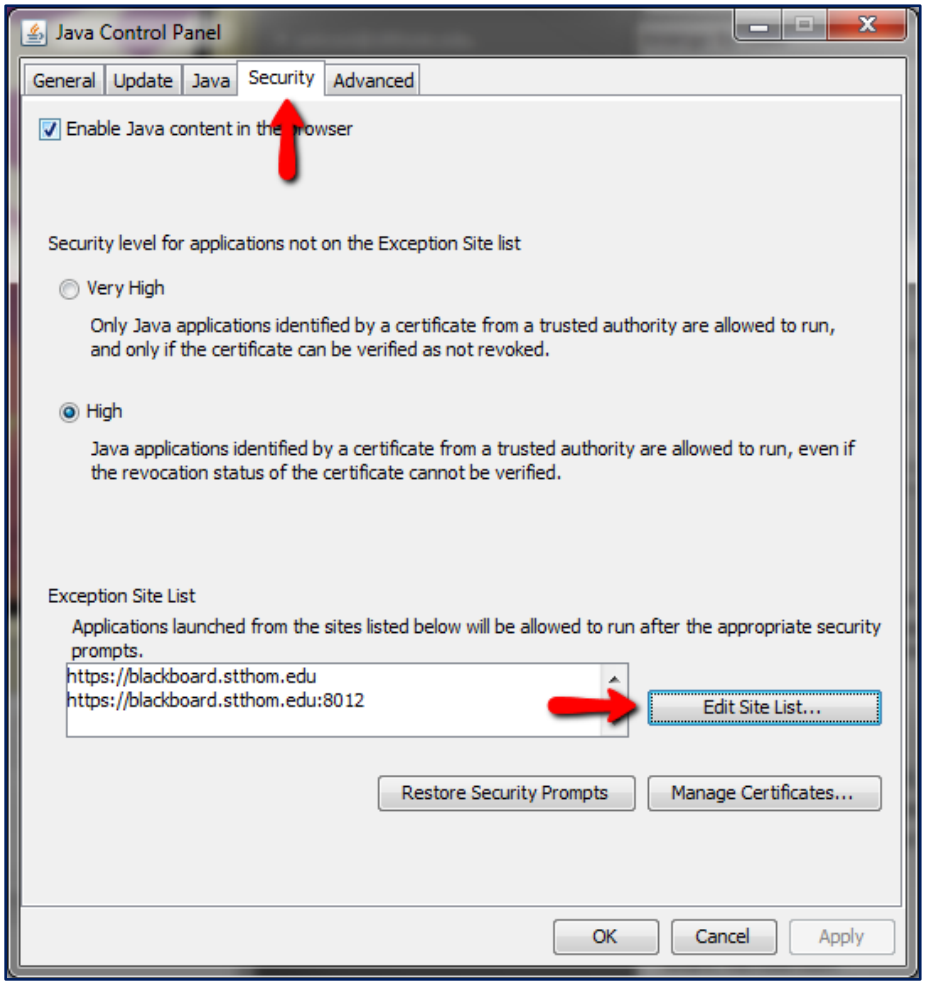
This portion of the tutorial will cover modifying the settings of the Java Control Panel in Windows. If you are using Windows 8, the instructions may be slightly different.

Macintosh users can find the Java Control Panel in the System Preferences application, which can be launched from the Apple menu (top-left).

1. In Windows, click the **Start** button on the taskbar, and search for **Java** in the available search field. Click on **Configure Java** from the search results.

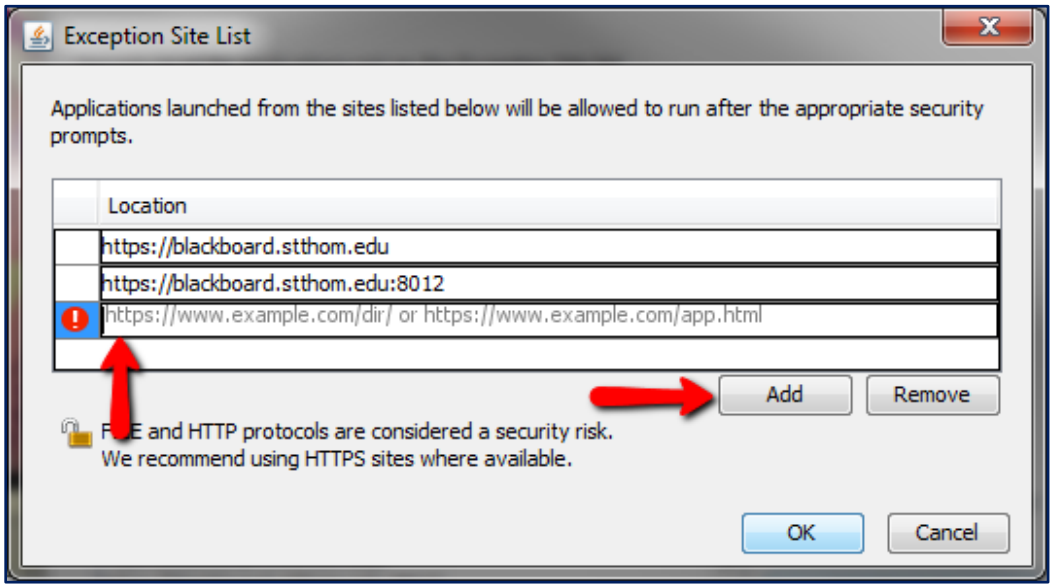


2. Select the **Security** tab on the new Java Control Panel window, and click the **Edit Site List** button.



3. Click **Add**, and type or paste the following URLs in the available text box. Click **Add** again when you are ready to enter the next URL. Press **Enter** when you have entered the last URL to save it.

   https://blackboard.stthom.edu
   https://blackboard.stthom.edu:8012
   https://wimba.stthom.edu:443



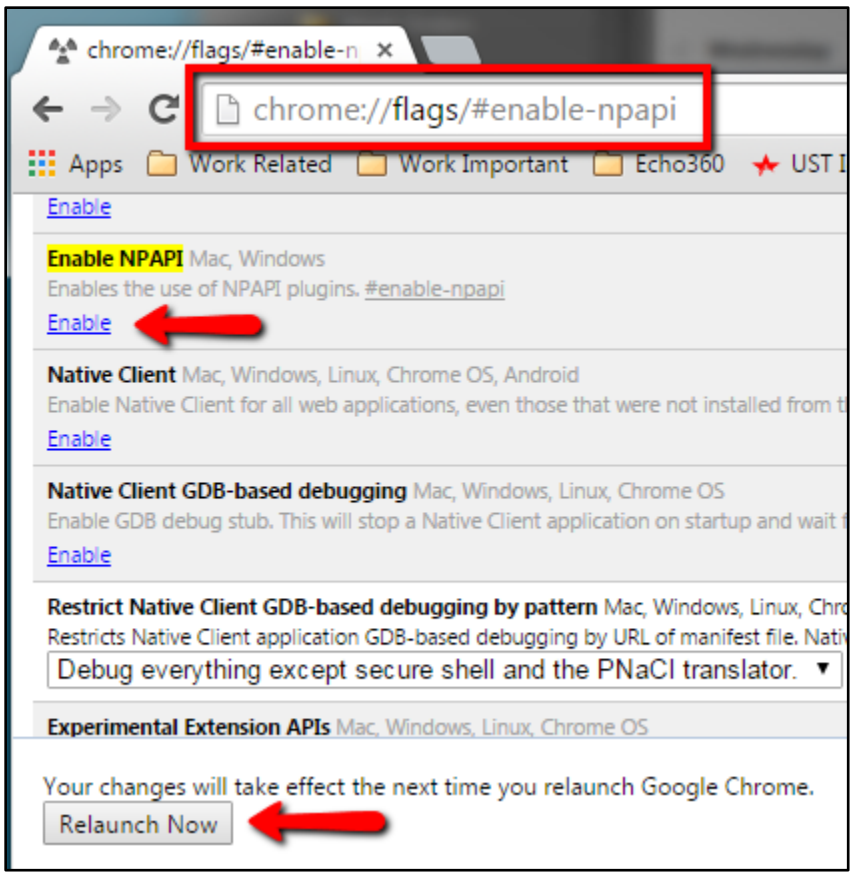
4. Click **OK** to close the Exception Site List window, and then **OK** to close the Java Control Panel window.

Enabling NPAPI in Chrome

1. Copy and paste **chrome://flags/#enable-npapi** into your Chromes address bar and press Enter

2. Locate the **Enable NPAPI** option and click on the blue **Enable**

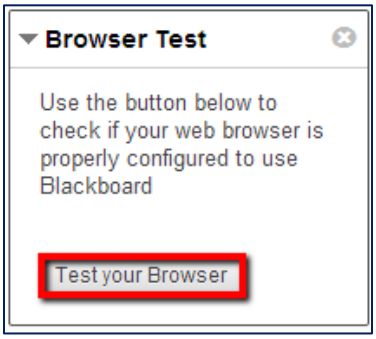
3. At the bottom of the page will appear a **Relaunch Now** button. Click this when you are finished and Chrome will completely close and reopen.

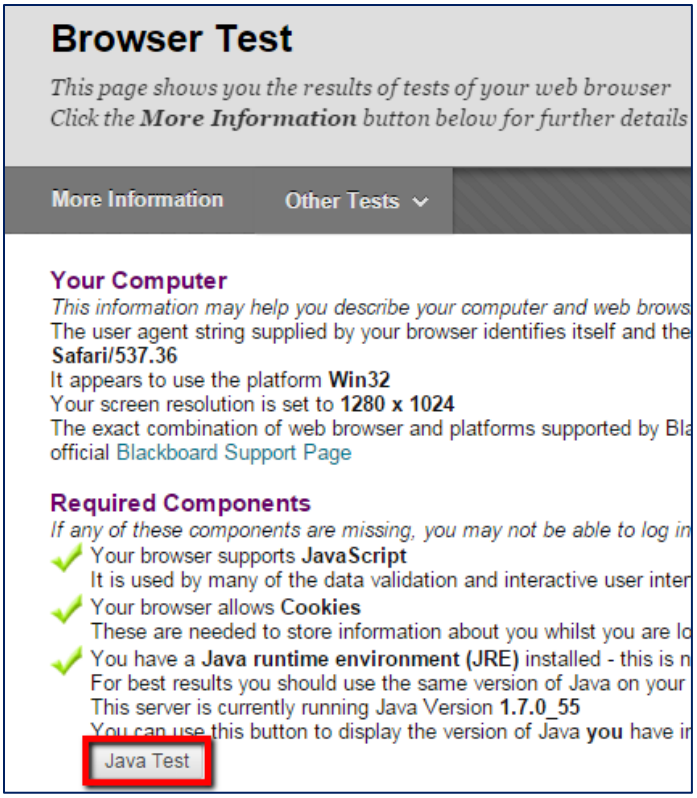


Testing Collaboration Tools

After all that, log into Blackboard, and navigate back to the Collaboration page, either via the Course Tools Control Panel or a **Tools** link on the Course Menu. Click a link to one of the Collaboration sessions, such as Lecture Hall or Office Hours, to test whether the applet loads correctly. You may still need to click **Run** when the Java security message box appears.

The Oracle Corporation upgrades the Java Runtime Engine frequently, which may create compatibility problems for web-based applications that depend on it. In order to ensure compatibility with Blackboard, check http://www.java.com/en/download/installed.jsp periodically to verify whether you have the latest version. You may also want to encourage your students to do the same. You can navigate to java.com via Blackboard's Browser Test module: Click **Test Your Browser**, and on Browser Test page click **Java Test**.


Browser Test
Use the button below to check if your web browser is properly configured to use Blackboard
Test your Browser


Browser Test
This page shows you the results of tests of your web browser
Click the More Information button below for further details
More Information
Other Tests
Your Computer
This information may help you describe your computer and web brows
The user agent string supplied by your browser identifies itself and the
Safari/537.36
It appears to use the platform Win32
Your screen resolution is set to 1280 x 1024
The exact combination of web browser and platforms supported by Bla
official Blackboard Support Page
Required Components
If any of these components are missing, you may not be able to log in
Your browser supports JavaScript
It is used by many of the data validation and interactive user inter
Your browser allows Cookies
These are needed to store information about you whilst you are lo
You have a Java runtime environment (JRE) installed - this is n
For best results you should use the same version of Java on your
This server is currently running Java Version 1.7.0_55
You can use this button to display the version of Java you have ir
Java Test